



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
FOR  
Determining the Market for Tennessee Regional Poison Control Center Services**

**RFI # 34347-52117**

**Issued NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

The State of Tennessee, Department of Health, issues this Request for Information for the purpose of learning the current state of marketplace for providing regional poison control center services in Tennessee. The State is soliciting information to determine the extent to which organizations now meet or have the current capacity to meet the requirements which have been set forth to provide such services.

This market research is not a competition. No evaluation of participating vendors will occur and your participation is not a promise of future business with the State. Responding or not responding to the RFI does not preclude a vendor from bidding on any future solicitations. Pricing information must NOT be submitted with your information packet. Should responses from the RFI generate additional questions from the State, all vendors responding to this request will receive the additional questions.

**2. BACKGROUND:**

Public Chapter No. 393 of the Acts of 1991 authorizes the Department of Health to establish and maintain a system of poison control centers in Tennessee. Rules and regulations set forth in Chapter 1200-11-6 (<http://share.tn.gov/sos/rules/1200/1200-11/1200-11-06.pdf>) define the criteria and standards by which the Commissioner of Health will designate a regional poison control center in Tennessee which, at a minimum, include the following:

- To assure efficiency and quality of services, a poison control center can be eligible for designation if it handles a minimum of 10,000 exposure cases per year, including out-of-state calls.
- Functional requirements for designated poison control centers include (1) providing qualified medical professionals who answer requests by telephone for poison information and make recommendations for appropriate emergency management and treatment referrals of poisoning exposures on a 24-hour per day basis; (2) provision for both professional education and public awareness programs on poison prevention and poison control center utilization; (3) maintaining a data collection system that records and reports

all exposure cases handled according to specific data elements; and (4) maintaining an on-going quality assurance program.

### 3. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The State is requesting the following information from all interested parties:

- 3.1. Legal Name of Organization;
- 3.2. Business Entity of Organization (ex- corporation, non-profit, or partnership);
- 3.3. Location of organization;
- 3.4. Contact person and contact information;
- 3.5. Brief Description of general experience with poison control: 3.6. Number of poison exposure cases handled per year for the period 2012-2014 ("exposure case" is defined as an intentional or unintentional human poisoning in which the center is called for advice on handling the incident, provides appropriate information and monitors the patient's progress as appropriate);
- 3.6. Current capacity to meet the functional requirements detailed in Rules and Regulations, Chapter 1200-11-6 or the timeframe needed to obtain such capacity; and
- 3.7. Any additional information or alternative approaches for the State to consider.

### 4. COMMUNICATIONS: Please submit your response to this RFI to:

- 4.1 Please submit your response to this RFI to:

Melissa Painter, Competitive Procurement Coordinator  
 Service Procurement Office  
 Tennessee Department of Health  
 Andrew Johnson Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 710 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, TN 37243  
 Phone: (615) 741-0285  
 Fax: (615) 741-3840  
 Email: Melissa.Painter@tn.gov

- 4.2. Please feel free to contact the Department of Health with any questions regarding this RFI. The main point of contact will be:

Melissa Painter, Competitive Procurement Coordinator  
 Service Procurement Office  
 Tennessee Department of Health  
 Andrew Johnson Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 710 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, TN 37243  
 Phone: (615) 741-0285  
 Fax: (615) 741-3840  
 Email: Melissa.Painter@tn.gov

- 4.3. Please reference RFI # 34347-52117 with all communications to this RFI.

### 5. RFI SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

EVENT		TIME (Central Time Zone)	DATE (all dates are State business days)
1.	RFI Issued		November 13, 2015
2.	RFI Response Deadline	2: 00 p.m.	December 1, 2015

**6. GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- 6.1. Please note that responding to this RFI is not a prerequisite for responding to any future solicitations related to this project and a response to this RFI will not create any contract rights. Responses to this RFI will become property of the State.
- 6.2. The information gathered during this RFI is part of an ongoing procurement. In order to prevent an unfair advantage among potential respondents, the RFI responses will not be available until after the completion of evaluation of any responses, proposals, or bids resulting from a Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid or other procurement method. In the event that the state chooses not to go further in the procurement process and responses are never evaluated, the responses to the procurement including the responses to the RFI, will be considered confidential by the State.
- 6.3. The State will not pay for any costs associated with responding to this RFI.